





## For Sale.

**MacEwen, Frickel & Co.**  
VICTORIA EXCHANGE.

QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL.

**HAVE FOR SALE**  
THE FOLLOWING  
**STORES.**

EX AMERICAN MAIL STEAMER.

Smoked HAMS.  
Golden SYRUP in Gallon Tins.  
Assorted SYRUPS.  
Curtis's Table FRUITS.  
ASPARAGUS.  
Queen OLIVES.  
Sausage MEAT.  
Caviar.  
Pickled MEATS.  
MACKEREL in 5th Tins.  
Eagle Brand MILK.  
Lamb's TONGUES.  
Green CORN.  
Baked BEANS.  
BROWN.

A LARGE ASSORTMENT  
of

COOKING AND PARLOUR

**STOVES.**

AGATE IRON WARE COOKING  
UTENSILS.  
WUFFLE IRONS.  
CHARCOAL IRONS.  
KEROSENE LAMPS.  
NONPAMEL KEROSENE OIL.

**WINES, &c.**

SPARKLING SAUMUR, Pils. & Qls. @  
\$11 and \$12.  
COUP CHAMPAGNE, Pils. & Qls. @ \$12  
and \$14.  
SACCO's SHERRY.  
SACCO's INVAL PORT.  
ROYAL GLENDE WHISKY.  
JAMESON'S WHISKY.  
OLD BOURBON WHISKY.  
HEERING'S CHERRY CORDIAL.  
ASSORTED LEQUEURS.  
DRAUGHT, ALE and PORTER.  
&c., &c., &c.

THE USUAL ASSORTMENT  
of

**OILMAN'S STORES,**

at the

Lowest Possible Prices

FOR CASH.

**MacEwen, Frickel & Co.**

Hongkong, July 1, 1886. 1268

FOR SALE.

**JULES MUMM & Co.'s**  
CHAMPAGNE.

Quarts.....\$20 per Case of 1 doz.  
Pints.....\$21 " " 2 "

Dubouche & Co. of Gernon & Co.'s  
BORDEAUX CLARETS AND  
WHITE WINES.

Baxter's Celebrated 'Barley Bree'  
WHISKY, 7/6 per Case of 1 doz.

GIBB, LIVINGSTON & Co.

Hongkong, July 18, 1884. 1187

**To-day's Advertisements.**

**DOUGLAS STEAMSHIP COMPANY,**  
LIMITED.

FOR AMOY AND TAMSUI.

The Co.'s Steamship  
Fokien, Captain Wylie, will be  
despatched for the above  
Ports on MONDAY, the 4th Instant, at 3 p.m.

For Freight or Passage, apply to  
DOUGLAS LAIRDALE & Co.,  
General Managers.

Hongkong, October 2, 1886. 1881

**OCEAN STEAMSHIP COMPANY.**

FOR LONDON VIA SUEZ CANAL.

The Co.'s Steamship  
Hector, Captain Barty, will be  
despatched as above on  
WEDNESDAY, the 6th Instant.

For Freight or Passage, apply to  
BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE,  
Agents.

Hongkong, October 2, 1886. 1870

**THE GIBB LINE OF STEAMERS.**

FOR PORT DARWIN, AND THENCE  
DIRECT TO

SYDNEY AND MELBOURNE.

(Taking through Cargo for QUEENSLAND  
PORTS, ADELAIDE, TASMANIA  
and NEW ZEALAND.)

The British Steamer  
Fathin, Captain Bowley, with  
cargo from JAPAN  
and FOKIEN, will be despatched as above  
on THURSDAY, the 7th Instant, at 4 p.m.

To connect at Port Darwin, with the  
Rowland, for the transhipment of through  
Cargo for QUEENSLAND PORTS and NEW  
ZEALAND.

The Fathin has excellent Accommodation  
for First-class Passengers.

1885

**FOR YOKOHAMA AND KOBE.**

The British Steamer  
Afghan, Captain Roy, shortly due  
quick despatch from MANILA, will have  
the Steamer will load for the Colonies  
from JAPAN leaving Kona about the middle  
of current month.

For Freight or Passage, apply to  
GIBB, LIVINGSTON & Co.,  
Managers.

Hongkong, October 2, 1886. 1895

## To-day's Advertisements.

**UNION INSURANCE SOCIETY OF**  
CANTON, LIMITED.

NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS.

A Second BONUS of FIVE PER CENT.  
on Contributions, and a DIVIDEND  
of SIX DOLLARS and TWENTY-FIVE CENTS  
per Share for the year 1885, will be Payable  
on MONDAY, the 4th Instant.

WARRANTS may be had on application at  
the Office of the Society on and after that  
date.

By Order of the Board,  
N. J. EDE, Secretary.

Hongkong, October 2, 1886. 1883

**FOR SALE**

**THE BRITISH STEAMSHIP**  
CRUSADER.

For Particulars, apply to  
ARNHOLD, KARBERG & Co.,  
Agents.

Hongkong, October 2, 1886. 1883

**SEALED TENDERS** will be received  
by the Undersigned before 2 p.m. on  
WEDNESDAY, the 13th Instant, for the  
SUPPLY to H.M. NAVAL YARD of 1,500  
Tons of the Best Fresh Wrought Screened  
AUSTRIAN COAL.

Tenders should quote Price per ton  
'ex ship,' and Price per ton deliverable  
free of expense into the NAVAL YARD COAL  
SIDES at Kowloon.

The Coal is to be delivered within 3  
months from date, and is to be subject to  
the Approval of the RECEIVING OFFICERS.

The right to refuse the lowest or any  
Tender is reserved.

W. H. LOBB,  
Naval Storekeeper.

H.M. Naval Yard,  
Hongkong, 2nd October, 1886. 1887

**NOTICE.**

**COMPAGNIE DES MESSEAGERIES**  
MARITIMES.

PAQUEBOTS POSTE FRANCAIS.

STEAM FOR  
SAIGON, SINGAPORE, BATAVIA,  
COLOMBO, PONDICHERY,  
MADRAS, CALCUTTA, ADEN, SUEZ,  
PORT SAID.

MEDITERRANEAN AND BLACK  
SEA PORTS.

OF BRAZIL, AND LA PLATA:  
ALSO

GORDEAUX, LE HAVRE, DUNKIRK,  
LONDON AND ANTWERP.

ON THURSDAY, the 19th October,  
1886, at Noon, the Company's  
S.S. ANADYR, Commandant DELACROIX,  
with MAILS, PASSENGERS, SPECIE,  
and CARGO, will leave this Port for the  
above places.

Cargo and Specie will be registered for  
London as well as for Marseilles, and re-  
ceived in transit through Marseilles for the  
principal places of Europe.

Shipping Orders will be granted until  
Noon.

Cargo will be received on board until 4  
p.m., Specie and Parcels until 3 p.m. on  
the 19th October, 1886. (Parcels are not  
to be sent on board; they must be left at  
the Agency's Office.)

Contents and value of Packages are re-  
quired.

For further particulars, apply at the  
Company's Office.

G. DE CHAMPEAUX,  
Agent.

Hongkong, October 2, 1886. 1882

**Occidental & Oriental Steam-**  
Ship Company.

MAKING CARGO AND PASSENGERS  
TO JAPAN, THE UNITED  
STATES, MEXICO, CENTRAL AND  
SOUTH AMERICA, AND EUROPE.

THE OVERLAND RAILWAYS,  
AND  
ATLANTIC & OTHER CONNECTING  
STEAMERS.

THE Steamship OCEANIC will be  
despatched for San Francisco, via  
Yokohama, on THURSDAY, 21st October,  
at 3 p.m.

Connection being made at Yokohama,  
with Steamers from Shanghai and Japan  
ports.

All Parcel Packages should be marked to  
address in full, and same will be received  
at the Company's Office, until 5 p.m. the  
day previous to sailing.

RETURNS PASSENGERS.—Passengers, who  
have paid full fare, re-embarking at San  
Francisco for China or Japan (or vice versa)  
within six months, will be allowed a discount  
of 20 % from Return Fare, if re-embarking  
within one year, an allowance of 10 % will  
be made from Return Fare. Pro-Paid Return  
Passage Orders, available for one year, will  
be issued at a Discount of 25 % from  
Return Fare. These allowances do not apply  
to through fares from China and Japan to  
Europe.

Consular Invoices to accompany Cargo  
destined to ports beyond San Francisco,  
should be sent to the Company's Office,  
addressed to the Collector of Customs, San  
Francisco.

For further information as to Freight  
or Passage, apply to the Agency of the  
Company, No. 50, Queen's Road Central.

O. D. HARMAN,  
Agent.

Hongkong, October 2, 1886. 1884

**Not Responsible for Debts.**

Neither the Captain, the Agents, nor  
Owners will be Responsible for  
any Debt contracted by the Officers or  
Crew of the following Vessels, during  
their stay in Hongkong Harbour:—

ANTROCH, American barque, Capt. H. J.  
Hemingway.—Arnhold, Karberg & Co.

BILLY SIMPSON, British barque, Capt. F.  
A. Brown.—Captain.

BOVIN, Norwegian barque, Captain Ch.  
Henriksen.—Melchers & Co.

GALATHEA, British ship, Captain William  
Colville.—Barnes & Co., Ltd.

HARVEST, American ship, Captain Wm.  
Taylor.—Order.

HYDRA, German barque, Capt. C. Binge.  
—Stomson & Co.

JOHN PRINCE, British ship, Capt. Theo.  
Ryan.—Messageries Maritimes.

PERONSCOR, American barque, Capt. O.  
G. Raton.—Adams, Bell & Co.

RISTON, British barque, Captain J.A.  
Neave.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

SARAH HIGGINS, American ship, Capt. A.  
Morgan.—Ed. Scollins & Co.

SHIRAZ, British barquentine, Captain  
James Garlick.—Stomson & Co.

## SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

October 1 (yesterday).

Signal, German steamer, 385, O. A. Hun-

dowald, Paochoi September 28, and Hoihow

30, General.—Stomson & Co.

October 2:—

Stratheden, British steamer, 834, William

Hutton, Saigon September 26, Rice, &c.

ANNOLO, German steamer, 1,293, Thomp-

son, Shanghai September 25, Koochow 29,

and Swat (October 1), General.—BUTTER-

FIELD & SWIRE.

City of Sydney, American steamer, 3,400,

D. E. Fiele, San Francisco September 4,

and Yokohama 26, Mails and General.—

P. M. S. S. Co.

Peking, British steamer, 954, G. Heuer-

mann, Shanghai September 29, General.—

Stomson & Co.

Pookang, British steamer, 990, H. V. Ho-

gg, Shanghai September 29, General.—

JARDINE, MATHESON & Co.

Onyango, British steamer, 1,556, P. H.

Macphail, London and Singapore Sept. 25,

General.—ANNOLO, KARBERG & Co.

DEPARTURES.

October 2:—

Telamon, for Amoy and Shanghai.

Duburg, for Swatow and Amoy.

Canton, for Swatow and Shanghai.

San Pablo, for San Francisco.

Vorwarts, for Singapore and Bombay.

Diamond, for Amoy and Manila.

Gildard, for Shanghai.

Annex H. Smith, for New York.

Signal, for Hoihow and Paochoi.

Luine, for Hoihow and Paochoi.

Thales, for Canton Ports.

Clivedon, for Rangoon.

PASSENGERS.

Per Signal, from Pakhoi, 59 Chinese.

Per Stratheden, from Saigon, 10 Chinese.

Per Vorwarts, from Shanghai, &c., 96 Chi-

nese.

Per City of Sydney, from San Francisco,

&c., Messrs J. H. Hart, Mrs C. D. Holmes,

Messrs T. H. Hayes, T. R. Kango, U. E.

Seeger, Dr. and Mrs E. B. Thompson, Mr

Yue Tsuei Sung, and 250 Chinese.

Per Peking, from Shanghai, Mr T.

Fukuhara, and 36 Chinese.

Per Pookang, from Shanghai, Mr Cusson,

and 15 Chinese.

Per Onyango, from London, &c., Mr J.

Carlson, and 145 Chinese.

Per Telamon, for Amoy, &c., 50 Chinese.

Per Duburg, for Swatow, 200 Chinese.

Per San Pablo, for Yokohama, Mr F.

Nandin, and 1 Chinese; for San Francisco,

148 Chinese.

Per Vorwarts, for Amoy, &c., 1 European,

and 61 Chinese.

Per Gildard, for Shanghai, 3 Chinese.

Per Vorwarts, for Singapore, 2 Chinese

ladies; for Penang, 1 Chinese lady; for

Singapore and Penang, 404 Chinese.

TO DEPART.

Per Annex H. Smith, for New York, 2

Europeans.

Per Signal, for Hoihow, 180 Chinese.

Per Luine, for Hoihow, 20 Chinese.

Per Thales, for Canton Ports, 8 Europeans,

and 160 Chinese.

SHIPPING REPORTS.

The British steamer Stratheden reports:

Had strong N.E. winds and heavy head

sea; after passing Paracels.

The American steamer City of Sydney re-

ports: From San Francisco to Yokohama,

per weather with variable winds. From

Yokohama to Hongkong, per weather with

strong N.E. winds from Turnabout.

The British steamer Peking reports: Left

## MEMOS. FOR TO-MORROW.

Shipping.

Daylight.—Thales leaves for Canton Ports.

9 a.m.—Excursion trip by Hoihow to

Macao.

RELIGIOUS SERVICES.—

ORDER OF SERVICES OF THE CHURCH OF

ENGLAND AT THE CHURCH OF THE TRINITY.

THE 15TH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY.

8.30 a.m.—Military Parade Service.

11.30 a.m.—Matins, Holy Communion

and Sermon.

5 p.m.—Evangelist.

UNION CHURCH.—Divine Worship, 11

a.m.—Rev. E. J. Elliot. Services in Chinese,

2 p.m.—Rev. J. Chalmers, M.A., L.L.D.

SEAMEN'S SERVICES.—The Services for

Seamen which have been hitherto held in

the Mission Church, Queen's Road, will be

held in the future in Union Church. On

Sunday and Friday evenings at 7.30. All

Seamen are invited to attend.

GERMAN BETHESDA CHAPEL.—Service in

the German language, by Rev. F. Hartmann,

every Sunday, at half-past ten a.m. in the

Chapel of the Berlin Foundling House,

West Point.

St. JOSEPH'S CHURCH, Garden Road.—

9 a.m. Mass and Sermon. 8.30 p.m. Even-

ing Service, Benediction.

St. PETER'S SEAMEN'S CHURCH, Sailors'

Home.—Service every Sunday at 5.45 p.m.

Holy Communion at 7.45 a.m. on the Second

Sunday; and after the evening Service on

the Fourth Sunday of each month. Service

every Thursday at 5.30 p.m.

TEMPERANCE HALL, 7.30 p.m.—Undeno-

minational Meeting.

MEMOS. FOR MONDAY.

Shipping.

2 p.m.—Fokien leaves for Swatow.</



That an agitation should be set on foot to carry out the suggestion first made by Mr. O'Malley, to bring in the English law affecting publishers and to apply its main provisions to this Colony.

That, to prevent misunderstandings, the unofficial Members of Council will probably get reduced to writing any future "arrangements" under which they are induced to withdraw their opposition.

That rumour has it that matters are not progressing so favourably with the Taitam Water-works as might be wished.

That, as opinions seem to be divided as to the cause of the serious outbreak of fever in the Western district, any delay in the completion of the Water-works and consequent sanitary measures is greatly to be regretted.

That every one is asking whether the Sanitary Board has made any representations to Government concerning the fever now prevalent in the Colony.

That the new Medical Society will do good service if it will investigate the cause or causes of this widespread disease, and suggest preventive measures.

That the Allice Memorial Hospital will provide a neutral ground for the investigation of cases of scientific importance which the Government Civil Hospital does not afford.

That native opinion is steadily gravitating in favour of such a Hospital here, and that it will soon be a pronounced success.

That the Police Magistrate is to be commended for putting a stop to the use of the word *Kwai*, as it is usually applied to Europeans by Chinese who know better and should be taught to be civil.

That a new Commanding Officer of Engineers is coming, and that his advent may mean more changes and further expense for taxpayers.

That our rulers at Home seem to be able to provide heavy guns for the Chinese (which any one can see on Jardine's West Point Wharf), but that Hongkong has to pay, to look pleasant, and to whistle for her heavy guns.

That the farcical Address and Reply to the Address, by which Governor Bowen sought to ape government by a responsible Ministry, frequently acts as a muzzle upon unofficial members of Council, and should be severely left alone.

That the injurious uses of such Addresses have been made manifest by the complications at Mauritius.

That, as Mr. March has been unfortunate once in citing Mauritius as an example, he will probably not venture to do so again.

That Mr. Francis' admission, in his letter to "Dear Browne," of not being "in it," which compared with Mr. Chater's chances, was frank.

That, this admission apart, the contingency of Mr. Jackson's return and the consequent possible opening for a continuance of Mr. McEwen's seat on the Council, have effectually stopped further discussion, for the time being, of the relative merits of either Mr. Francis or Mr. Chater.

That it is as well that it is so.

That your contemporary is a little out in his figures concerning the Light Dues, but that, nevertheless, there can only be one opinion that the matter must be put on a proper footing for the credit of Hongkong as a free port.

That the Government have no occasion to crow over their exploits to the threatened water famine; despite Lord Granville's despatch, as most people know that business was managed and by whom.

That Sir George Phillip's judgment in the *Thetis* case has given great satisfaction in maritime circles.

That the return of Mr. Jackson to the East, if only on a tour of inspection of the branches, might be a step in the right direction for the interests of the shareholders in the Hongkong & Shanghai Bank.

That Bank shares have been a source of renewed anxiety to many during the past week, but that once more the corner of depression appears to be turned for the present.

That Punjoms are again on the move with the reported despatch of the trial machinery and the departure yesterday from London of the recently-engaged first-class Mining Engineer.

That by next spring the stock may be at 20, or over, if first workings prove successful, a point to a realisation of Hongkong's golden dream of fortune.

That gold mining is at all times a leap in the dark, more or less, but that there would appear to be reasonable grounds for believing in the ultimate success of Punjoms.

BROWNE.

#### THE OPENING CRICKET MATCH.

THE FIRST XII v. ALL-CONGERS. This match was continued to-day. The All-Congers had run up the capital score yesterday of 235, the best scores being made by H. Potts, who made 43, and H. Vickers, who made 37.

Today the first XII were disposed of for the comparatively small number of 89 runs. The field was too densely covered to allow them to make many runs and the majority of them were caught. The best scores were made by C. S. Barff, who made 30, one of his figures being a four. G. Grimble, who went first to the wickets, also made a good stand. The best hit in the match was made by Jackson, who sent the ball into the sea and scored 6 for the hit. E. O. Smith made a splendid appearance in the bowling analysis, taking no less than 8 wickets. Being that 149 runs behind in their first innings, the first XII were again sent to the wickets. They made a somewhat bet-

ter stand on this occasion. The highest figure was 33, made by M. D. Graham, in this figure being included a 4 and a 5. The next best was G. Grimble, who made 28 in a short time. When light failed the first XII had made 126 in their second innings for nine wickets, making a total for the two innings of 215, being 23 short of the score of the All-Congers in their own innings.

The band of the Northamptonshire Regiment played at intervals during the afternoon.

W. H. Potts, 43; H. Vickers, 37; C. S. Barff, 30; G. Grimble, 28; M. D. Graham, 33; E. O. Smith, 8; J. H. Cox, 1; H. W. Dick, 3; W. P. McEwen, 2; A. H. E. Brown, 1; T. Lamont, 1.

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whether they would be permitted to use Mr. Sharp's ground.

Mr. Hayllar said it was unenforced and open to the public.

Mr. Lockhart also questioned whether the ground on the Race Course was in a position to be played on. He was there on Sunday, and he saw that the turf was all out of, and that it was a regular swamp.

Mr. Hayllar thought it could be played upon, the water was draining off.

The next business was the election of officers.

On the motion of Mr. Lockhart, Mr. Foss was unanimously re-elected Chairman of the Club.

Mr. Lockhart was proposed as Hon. Sec. by Mr. W. H. Robertson, but he declined in consequence of his time being too fully occupied to allow him to do justice to the position. He would promise, however, to render the Hon. Secretary what assistance he could.

Dr. Piko then proposed Mr. Hayllar as Hon. Sec., and the motion was agreed to.

Mr. W. Bruce Robertson was re-elected Hon. Treasurer, and Lieut. Brooke, R.A., Mr. Lockhart, and Lieut. Metcalfe (88th Regiment) were re-elected members of the Committee, while Dr. Thompson, A.M.D., and Mr. Wallace were elected in the place of Mr. Hayllar and Lieut. Young, R.A., the latter of whom is absent.

Mr. G. W. was proposed by Mr. Lockhart, but he withdrew in favour of Mr. Wallace.

The meeting also agreed that as long as Dr. Piko was in the Colony he was to act as the Committee.

The Chairman announced that a list would be posted in the Club on which the names of proposed members could be placed. They would have to be proposed, seconded, and elected. Mr. Foss said that was all there was before the meeting, but before they dispersed he thought they ought to pass a hearty vote of thanks to Dr. Piko for the efforts he had made to get up a Football Club in the Colony. (Applause.)

He was sorry Dr. Piko was going to leave the Colony, for he was sure that the Club would otherwise be upon a firmer basis. (Heard.) Dr. Piko had worked heartily and well for the Club, which largely owed its success to him.

The motion was carried by acclamation, and the proceedings terminated.

#### CORRESPONDENCE.

A QUESTION FOR THE SURVEYOR GENERAL.

To the Editor of the "China Mail."

Sir,—I see in the report of the meeting of the Legislative Council yesterday, that the Honourable the Surveyor General gives, as a reason for the expenditure of \$1,200 per annum of public works, in the shape of remuneration to a European Overseer or Engineer to the Droghda, what appears to be his want of trust in the efficiency of Chinese supervision.

Can you tell me why a Government Droghda should require any more looking after than any other public works, and that the last year or two the Dock Company have had a Droghda of similar construction and doing a more difficult class of work, which has been entirely worked by Chinese.

Yours truly,  
A RATEPAYER.

MEETING OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Below we give our extended report of the latter part of the proceedings at yesterday's meeting of the Legislative Council.

THE ESTIMATES FOR 1887.

On the motion of the Acting Colonial Secretary, the Council went into Committee on the Appropriation Bill for 1887.

His Excellency said there was no change in the amount for the Governor's establishment.

The Chief Justice—I believe the Colonial Estimates are not private documents, but are open to the public generally, and that the report shows the increase and decrease in the revenue of 1887, and in the expenditure, and it is explained that the public generally have an opportunity of knowing how the monies are estimated to be raised and how they are expended, and every item of increase in the expenditure or estimated increase in the revenue is explained.

His Excellency—Yes, but I propose, as I promised, to go through these items by item, so as to give any member who chooses an opportunity of making observations upon them.

The Chief Justice—Certainly, but there seems to be some misapprehension generally that the public were not aware of the reasons for the votes being asked for.

THE REMUNERATION OF THE CROWN AGENTS.

Hon. A. P. MacEwen—Sir, I observe under the head of Commission to Crown Agents, an increase of \$1,500. Now, the Finance Committee, that hitherto has been the practice to pay the Crown Agents \$250 per annum. They now ask for a guaranteed amount of \$100 and 1 per cent. commission. I don't know why this change has been made; in fact, I think myself it is a very unreasonable increase.

His Excellency—There is the least necessity for Crown Agents at all. It would be much better if the Government invited public tenders for what they require from home. I am perfectly certain they would get it quite as cheaply and as quickly, and they ought to do so.

His Excellency—I have no objection to giving a preference to the Crown Agents. I would like to know whether, with reference to the loan, the Crown Agents would get one per cent. commission on that.

His Excellency—I am unable to tell you. I have written home about it.

His Excellency—No, I have not. I have written home about it.

His Excellency—I have no information on the subject. I have written home about it, but I have not yet received any answer.

Hon. P. Ryrie—I think it hardly possible they would make that high charge. One-eighth per cent., I think, would be sufficient.

The Colonial Treasurer—It was understood from the correspondence it was to be one-half per cent.

Hon. P. Ryrie—That is more reasonable, but even that is high. It ought to be one-eighth or one-quarter per cent.

The Acting Attorney General—That includes all the expenses.

Hon. A. P. MacEwen—May I ask my friend on my right (the Treasurer) whether the Crown Agents allow all the discounts that are received.

The Colonial Treasurer—The Crown Agents, as far as I know, do allow all the discounts that are received. I see bills coming out with discounts of 10 or 20 per cent. from tradesmen faithfully deducted by the Crown Agents. Whether there is any further discount I don't know. As to my friend's idea of dispensing with the Crown Agents, I have no objection to it, but I don't think it would be allowed to do it. The Crown Agents were invented I may say by the Colonial Office for the express purpose of preventing the importuning to which a Governor coming out would otherwise be subjected. Every one who had a rate or locomotive engine, or a steamship, or a railway, would be at him, and his life would not be

worth having, and very disagreeable questions might arise as to the Governor's choice of this person or that to supply certain articles. I am glad that in this colony we have no such plague to dispense of. It would be all manner of questions, such as exist in certain local institutions at present, and I can only express my gratification I have nothing to do with giving any contracts for the valuable stores required. We do get a little impatient with the Crown Agents at times, but I must say, although I was almost called into a disbeliever in them by a gentleman in this Council who was very brave against them, I have come back to have almost implicit faith in them. They have served us well, especially in this matter of the loan. Their temporary assistance has not only been a great relief to me, but has saved us a great deal of money.

Hon. P. Ryrie—I cannot agree with my friend who was just spoken. I believe we have got more expensive articles than it was necessary to have, and that we could have got the articles better locally. The Commissioner and the Navy have gone on this system ever since we have had a Naval Yard or a Commissariat Office here, and I never heard of anything like favouritism or anything of that kind. The tenders are open to the whole world, and I cannot see how it could possibly occur.

The Acting Attorney General—I think the articles we mostly require can be procured cheaper in England than here. We can get them almost direct from the manufacturer, whereas if we got them here they would be sold at a profit by the person who would supply them here. Take the large sum we are disbursing for cement. I am sure we have got the cement cheaper than we could have got it through any local person. The question has often been considered in other colonies as to the verdict as to how the work was satisfactorily performed by the Crown Agents. They are in direct communication with the manufacturers and in a better position to obtain a reduction or a cheaper article than we are here.

Hon. A. P. MacEwen—I would merely make one remark. I think my friend, the Surveyor General will bear me out, when I say that very considerable inconvenience and delay have taken place in connection with the Taitam Waterworks in consequence of the non-arrival of cement, whereas had the cement been supplied by the merchant, there would have been no delay.

I believe very considerable delays have occurred from that cause.

Hon. P. Ryrie—The subject is not a new one in this Council. It has been talked about over and over again, but we are unable to get to the bottom of it. I mention with reference to what the Treasurer said, the Crown Agents are at the present moment I think advancing \$10,000, for which we are paying 2½ per cent. in connection with the loan, and to draw against that we have money deposited in the Bank here at five per cent. and are making a profit.

Hon. P. Ryrie—Do you get five per cent. for a short period?

The Colonial Treasurer—We get five per cent. for periods of three, six, or twelve months.

Hon. P. Ryrie—You are better treated than other members of the community then.

The Colonial Treasurer—That was what I alluded to when I said we were saving money.

Hon. P. Ryrie—I must enquire into that.

The Colonial Treasurer—When we were looking into this matter the Crown Agents said they could get us money at 2½ per cent. That statement was received in Finance Committee with very great doubt. It is, perhaps, not saying too much to say that the Finance Committee thought that statement was a very good deal of a bluff.

His Excellency—The Crown Agents have been as good as their word and are getting us money at 2½ per cent.

No further observations were offered, and the vote was then passed.

THE MILITARY CONTRIBUTION—STERLING IN DOLLARS.

Hon. A. P. MacEwen—With reference to the amount of \$137,235 for the Military contribution, I would make a suggestion. I think it is \$230,000 at 3s., and a considerable amount will have to be written off by the difference in exchange.

His Excellency—At the time the estimate was prepared the rate of exchange was 3s. 6d., and we are now at 3s. 4d., so that the difference is not so great.

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